

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPI-NR 2012-18

Thursday, January 19, 2012

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Evers statement on legislative proposals on education announced today

MADISON — State Superintendent Tony Evers issued the following statement regarding proposed legislation on education.

“Over the past year, I have worked on a wide array of education reforms. I have led a statewide Educator Effectiveness Design Team and a School and District Accountability Design Team as well as joined the state effort around reading. I have worked in a collaborative spirit to advance reforms that deliver higher standards, new assessments, a reinvigorated effort around reading, new educator evaluation systems, a new comprehensive school and district accountability system that provides meaningful support to all schools, and a new school funding system. I would be supportive of specific legislative actions that are the direct product of this work and deliver on the intent of these collaborative groups.

“However, despite my leadership in these arenas and constitutional authority, I have not been involved in the drafting of the legislative proposals that have been announced. Clearly, it is essential to see the details of this proposed legislation and ensure they match the intent and spirit of all the work that so many groups and individuals put into improving schools and academic achievement for all students in Wisconsin.

“It is also vital to understand that many students’ schools are already planning for more budget cuts next year on top of cuts made this year. Education reforms must be fully funded and not simply be more unfunded mandates that result in further cuts to educational programming for our students.”

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NOTE: This statement is available electronically at http://www.dpi.wi.gov/eis/pdf/dpinr2012_18.pdf.